

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a nut having a torque transmitter;
- b) the torque transmitter is shaped to transmit torque; and
- c) a cap that is shaped according to the nut, wherein the cap is retained on the nut so that an interference fit is achieved between the cap and the nut.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 1, wherein the cap is configured to cooperate with a wrench.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 1, wherein the cap is shaped to fit within a wrench.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 1, wherein the cap is shaped so that a wrench applies torque to the torque transmitter.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a nut and a washer rotatable relative to each other about a common axis;
- b) a cap retained by the nut;
- c) an annular surface on the nut and a bearing surface on the washer being axially opposed to each other;
- d) the annular surface on the nut and the bearing surface on the washer are undulating in shape; and
- e) a clamping surface on the washer.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, further comprising a clamping surface on the washer having a plurality of protrusions.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, wherein the bearing surface and annular surface are undulating in shape and provided with a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, further comprising:

- a) the bearing surface and annular surface having a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- b) a height that is dimensioned according to the distance between the plateaus and the valleys and according to a clearance between threads on the nut and threads on a stud.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, further comprising:

- a) the bearing surface and annular surface having a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- b) a height that is dimensioned according to the distance between the plateaus and the valleys, wherein the height is slightly greater than a clearance between threads on the nut and threads on a stud.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, further comprising:

- a) the bearing surface and annular surface having a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- b) a height that is dimensioned according to the distance between the plateaus and the valleys and according to a number of threads per inch on the nut.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, further comprising:

- a) the bearing surface and annular surface having a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys;
- b) the plateaus, faces, and valleys providing the bearing surface and annular surface with a number of Vee-shaped undulations; and
- c) a height that is dimensioned according a ~~the~~ distance between the plateaus and the valleys and according to the number of Vee-shaped undulations.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, further comprising:

- a) the bearing surface and annular surface having a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys;
- b) the plateaus, faces, and valleys providing the bearing surface and annular surface with a number of Vee-shaped undulations; and
- c) a height that is dimensioned according a ~~the~~ distance between the plateaus and the valleys and according to the number of Vee-shaped undulations and a number of threads per inch on the nut.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly according to claim 5, further comprising:

- a) the bearing surface and annular surface having a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys;
- b) the plateaus, faces, and valleys providing the bearing surface and annular surface with a number of Vee-shaped undulations; and
- c) a height that is dimensioned according a ~~the~~ distance between the plateaus and the valleys and that is proportional to a product of the number of Vee shaped undulations and a number of threads per inch on the nut.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a cap;
- b) a nut ~~that retains-configured to retain the~~ a cap;
- c) a washer having a bearing surface;
- d) the nut and the washer being rotatable relative to each other about a common axis;
- e) the nut having an annular surface axially opposed to the bearing surface; and
- f) the annular surface and the bearing surface are undulating in shape.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented):

A locking fastener assembly according to claim 14, further comprising a clamping surface on the washer.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented):

A locking fastener assembly according to claim 14, further comprising a clamping surface on the washer having a plurality of protrusions.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented):

A locking fastener assembly according to claim 14, wherein the nut is configured to retain a cap via an interference fit.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented):

A locking fastener assembly according to claim 14, further comprising a cap, wherein the cap is retained on the nut so that an interference fit is achieved between the cap and the nut.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a nut having a torque transmitter shaped to transmit torque and a retaining surface;

- b) the retaining surface is configured to retain a the cap;
- c) the cap is dimensioned according to the nut, wherein the cap is retained on the nut so that an interference fit is achieved between the cap and retaining surface.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a nut having a torque transmitter and a retaining surface;
- b) the retaining surface is configured to retain a cap; and
- c) the cap is shaped according to the nut, wherein the cap is retained on the nut so that an interference fit is achieved between the nut and the cap.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 20, wherein the retaining surface is provided with a frictional surface.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 20, wherein the retaining surface is provided with a frictional surface having an increased frictional coefficient.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 20, wherein the retaining surface is provided with a plurality of notches at an angle.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 20, wherein the retaining surface is provided with a frictional surface that is provided with a plurality of notches at an angle between 30° and 60° with respect to an axis of the nut.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 20, wherein the retaining surface is provided with a frictional surface having a plurality of notches at an angle of 45° with respect to an axis of the nut.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 20, wherein an inner surface of the cap is shaped so that an interference fit is achieved with the retaining surface.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a washer having a bearing surface;
- b) a nut having a torque transmitter shaped to transmit torque, a retaining surface configured to retain a cap, and an annular surface that is opposed to the bearing surface on the washer;
- c) the washer and nut are assembled together whereby the washer and nut rotate with respect to each other; and
- d) the cap is shaped so that a socket wrench applies torque to the torque transmitter rather than the cap and so that an interference fit can be achieved with the retaining surface.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 27, wherein the annular surface and the bearing surface are undulating in shape.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 27, wherein the annular surface and the bearing surface are provided with a Vee shaped profile.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a washer having a bearing surface;

- b) a nut having a torque transmitter shaped to transmit torque, a retaining surface configured to retain a cap, and an annular surface that is opposed to the bearing surface on the washer;
- c) wherein the washer and nut are assembled together whereby the washer and nut rotate with respect to each other; and
- d) wherein the cap is retained on the nut so that an interference fit is achieved between the cap and the retaining surface.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 30, wherein the annular surface and bearing surface are undulating in shape.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 30, wherein the annular surface and the bearing surface include a Vee shaped profile.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended):

A fastener assembly, comprising:

- a) a cap retained by a nut;
- b) a washer having a bearing surface;
- c) the a nut is provided with ~~having~~ a torque transmitter shaped to transmit torque[,] and an annular surface that is opposed to the bearing surface on the washer;
- d) the washer and the nut being assembled together whereby the washer and nut rotate with respect to each other; and
- e) wherein the annular surface and the bearing surface are provided with a number of Vee shaped undulations.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, further comprising a clamping surface configured to prevent the washer from rotating.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein the washer is provided with a clamping surface having a plurality of protrusions.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the annular surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a height of the plateaus is dimensioned according to the threads on the nut.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the annular surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys;
- c) wherein a depth of the valleys is dimensioned according to the threads on the nut

Claim 38 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the annular surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a height of the plateaus is dimensioned according to the number of undulations on the annular surface

Claim 39 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the annular surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a depth of the valleys is dimensioned according to the number of undulations on the annular surface.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the bearing surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a height of the plateaus is dimensioned according to the threads on the nut.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the bearing surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys;
- c) wherein a depth of the valleys is dimensioned according to the threads on the nut

Claim 42 (Previously Presented)

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the bearing surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and

- c) wherein a height of the plateaus is dimensioned according to the number of undulations on the bearing surface

Claim 43 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the bearing surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a depth of the valleys is dimensioned according to the number of undulations on the bearing surface.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the annular surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a height of the plateaus is proportional to the product of the number of threads per inch on the nut and the number of Vee shaped undulations on the annular surface.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the annular surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a depth of the valleys is proportional to the product of the number of threads per inch on the nut and the number of Vee shaped undulations on the annular surface.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the bearing surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a height of the plateaus is proportional to the product of the number of threads per inch on the nut and the number of Vee shaped undulations on the bearing surface.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented):

A fastener assembly according to claim 33, wherein:

- a) the nut is provided with a predetermined number of threads per inch;
- b) the Vee shaped undulations of the bearing surface comprise a plurality of plateaus, faces, and valleys; and
- c) wherein a depth of the valleys is proportional to the product of the number of threads per inch on the nut and the number of Vee shaped undulations on the bearing surface.